

January 12/13, 2008

**Study Questions**  
**Money Talks**  
**2 Corinthians 9:6-15**  
Pastor Bryan Clark

**Opening Discussion**

1. Discuss the law of sowing and reaping. How does what we sow impact what we reap in all areas of life?
2. Is it possible to reap a bountiful spiritual harvest with God without sowing financial seeds with God? Why or why not?
3. In what practical ways does your giving affect your spiritual growth? Compare your Christian walk before and after your decision to give. What difference has your giving made to your relationship with Christ?

**Bible Study**

1. Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-15.
2. What does Paul say about sowing and reaping as it relates to our giving? Compare Jesus' words in Luke 6:33.

Practically speaking, what are Jesus and Paul trying to tell us? Is it wrong to be motivated to give by the law of the harvest? Why did Jesus and Paul tell us this if it wasn't to motivate us to be cheerful givers?

What is the difference between what Paul is saying and the "health, wealth and prosperity gospel" that is so popular today?

3. What is the reward of being a cheerful giver according to 2 Corinthians 9:8-10?
4. Read Psalm 112 which Paul quotes in 2 Corinthians 9:9. Summarize the lifestyle of the righteous person according to this psalm.

Can a person live a righteous lifestyle without giving generously to God? Why or why not?

5. Paul makes the case in 2 Corinthians 9:13-19 that our cheerful and generous giving lends "proof" that we truly confess the indescribable gospel of grace, thus enhancing God's reputation. Why is that?

In what way is our giving a natural outflow of our confession of the gospel of grace?

## Application

1. According to Paul what is necessary to experience a spiritual harvest?

What does that mean for you personally?

2. Consider your giving to be a measurement of what you really believe about the gospel of grace. Is your lifestyle (especially your money management) consistent with what you say you believe about the gospel of grace? If not, what specific areas do you need to address?
3. For those who have been financially involved in the *Purpose* campaign these past years, share how your steps of faith have impacted your life spiritually.
4. For those not yet involved in the joy of giving, prayerfully consider sowing cheerfully and bountifully to experience God's harvest.